

OGC 8-0289

10 February 1958

MEMORANDUM FOR THE RECORD

SUBJECT: Atomic Energy Legislation

1. On 5 February 1958 Dr. Scoville was testifying for CIA before the Joint Committee on Atomic Energy in connection with the proposed legislation for broadening the exchange of information with foreign countries when Chairman Durham asked for an appraisal of the security of the NATO countries, country by country, and in detail. Dr. Scoville testified that this was outside of his sphere but that he would see what could be done to develop the information. Chairman Durham asked that we do so, saying that in his opinion he felt this was the proper responsibility for CIA.

2. On review of the situation within the Agency, it appears that this problem is related directly to the responsibilities of SD-MIC, which is currently responsible for administering the Presidential policy on release of military information to foreign countries. SD-MIC is chaired by the Department of State and a CIA representative attends as advisor. The Atomic Energy Commission makes separate appraisals of the security of nuclear organizations of foreign countries with which they exchange information.

3. In view of these circumstances I discussed the Committee request with William B. Macomber, Assistant Secretary-Congressional Relations, Philip J. Farley, Special Assistant to the Secretary for Atomic Energy Affairs, and Merrill M. Hammond, Director, Office of Munitions Control, who currently Chairs SD-MIC. They agreed that the basic work on the security appraisals could be done by SD-MIC and that the Department of State could then coordinate with the Atomic Energy Commission to assure that its contribution

would be included. CIA would participate through its normal liaison channel with SD-MIC. The Atomic Energy Commission agreed with this procedure and Mr. Farley notified James T. Ramey, Executive Director, Joint Committee on Atomic Energy. I talked to John T. Conway, Chief of Security of the Joint Committee, who said that CIA was technically relieved of Chairman Durham's inquiry and that Mr. Ramey was addressing a letter to the Department of State making the request specific for their action.

4. Mr. Conway told me he was certain the Joint Committee would want a final and specific answer as to who had final responsibility for the security problem in the release of information contemplated by the amendments to the bill. This is not an easy responsibility to determine, particularly in view of the wording of the act which would give AEC with the assistance of the Department of Defense responsibility for determining what information should be passed in certain categories, and the Department of Defense with the assistance of the AEC responsibility in other categories, all subject to the criteria set by the bill. CIA is not mentioned in the bill, but from Chairman Durham's remarks and those of Chairman Pastore of the Subcommittee they may suggest that the responsibility be placed on CIA and we should be prepared to take a position in that event.

25X

LAWRENCE R. HOUSTON  
General Counsel

OGC:LRH:jeb

cc: DD/C

AD/SI

Director of Security

CI Staff

Legislative Counsel

Orig: General Counsel-Legislation 1 - Atomic Energy Leg.

OGC chrono-no circ.

TRANSMITTAL SLIP		DATE
		10 February 1958
TO:		
DD/C		
ROOM NO.	BUILDING	
202	Admin	
REMARKS:		
<p>This could be troublesome. Do you think we need to bring it to the Director's attention at this time? Possibly General Cabell is closer to this particular problem.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">LRHouston</p>		
FROM:		
General Counsel		
ROOM NO.	BUILDING	EXTENSION
221	East	
FORM NO. 241 1 FEB 55		REPLACES FORM 36-8 WHICH MAY BE USED. (47)

TRANSMITTAL SLIP		DATE
		10 February 1958
TO:		
AD/S/ Dir of Sec/Chief, CI Staff		
ROOM NO.	BUILDING	
REMARKS:		
<p>Would you please furnish Legislative Counsel with any comments you may have on the attached?</p>		
FROM:		
General Counsel		
ROOM NO.	BUILDING	
221	East	
FORM NO. 241 1 FEB 55		REPLACES FORM 36-8 WHICH MAY BE USED. (7)